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09/19/01

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 2019.1001-011

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Date: <u>09/19/01</u>	Express Mail Label No. <u>EL 762342106 US</u>
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Inventor: Edwin T. Van Valey
Attorney's Docket No.: 2019.1001-011

MOLD FOR DENTAL MODEL

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of Application No. 09/584,675, filed May 31, 2000, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,499,999} which is a continuation of Application No. 09/236,155 filed January 22, 1999,

5 now U.S. Patent No. 6,089,863 which is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 08/916,533 filed August 21, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,957,688 which claims ^{the benefit of} priority _{to} U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/024,297 filed August 22, 1996. The entire teachings of the above-referenced applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 In the fabrication of dental prosthetics, such as false teeth or caps, a negative impression is made of the teeth of a dental patient using a thermoplastic material. The negative impression is then filled with a hardenable material to form a die. The die is affixed to a base formed of similar hardenable material to form a dental model. A dental model articulator is used to correlate upper and lower dental models in the

15 forming and adjustment of the dental prosthesis.

The appeal of using a one-use or dispensable articulator is one primarily of time. A reusable articulator needs to be mounted to the models of the teeth with dental plaster, which requires considerable time in the processes of mixing, placing, curing, clean-up and then the subsequent removal of the hardened plaster from the models and articulator

20 after completion of the prosthesis so as to allow re-use of the articulator. Dispensable

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Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 13-19 with the following amended paragraph.

The back wall 522 includes recesses 510, 511 which extend horizontally along a portion of the back wall. Recesses 510, 511 are spaced apart and are defined in part by excurve cylindrical elements 512, 513, respectively, and by incurvate surfaces 530, 532, respectively, as shown in the cross-sectional view of FIG. 14. The excurve cylindrical elements 512, 513 are longitudinal sections of a cylinder. The excurvatures of the excurve cylindrical elements are coaxial with an axis lying between the recesses and oriented in a transverse relationship to the rear wall [[.]], that is, the axis of the curvate surfaces is essentially parallel to the rear wall, as shown in Fig. 14.